of the Scheme is to provide additional wage employment in the rural areas as also food security, along side the creation of durable community,social and economic infrastructure in the rural areas. The SGRY is implemented through Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) at District, Block and Village level. The resources are allcoated in the ratio of 20:30:50 between District, Intermediate and Gram Panchayat respectively. State/UT-wise position of the funds allocated/released and utilized for the year 2003-04 and 2004-05 is given in Annexure. *[See Appendix 204, Annexure No. 23]* District-wise position regarding funds allocated, released and utilized under the SGRY in Chhattisgarh during the year 2003-04 and 2004-05 is given in Annexure. *[See Appendix 204, Annexure No. 23]*

Training to the representatives of Panchayati Raj

†2881. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any proposal from Madhya Pradesh for imparting training to the representatives of Panchayati Raj and Gram Swaraj;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the proposal of the State would get the approval of the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Prior to the creation of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, the Training and Research Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Rural Development considered the following two proposals submitted by the Madhya Pradesh Government;

Proposai-1: Training of Elected Members of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Madhya Pradesh.

Proposal-2: Training of 52727 Gram Sabhas in Madhya Pradesh.

The first proposal was considered by the Training and Research Advisory

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Committee of that Ministry and out of the total amount proposed *i.e.* Rs. 18.90 crores an amount of Rs. 4.50 crore as Central share was approved and two installments of Rs. 1.00 crore each were released on 20th February, 2001 and 25th June, 2003. Screening of proposals for Panchayati Raj Training is now being looked after by the Training and Research Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The Madhya Pradesh Government has been asked by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to furnish the utilization certificate and item-wise statement of accounts of amount released so far and to report on the physical progress of training programmes organized out of the grant/ funds released. The State Government has also been asked to confirm whether it has released its share of the cost of the training. On receipt of their reply the decision with regard to release of next installment of Central share will be taken.

Tapping of new sources of oil

2882. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a fresh strategy has been drawn to explore the possibility of tapping new sources of oil available in different regions of the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof and their present status;

(c) whether the economics of contracting oil supplies from Venezuela has been studied; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, including the prospects/feasibility of trading in such oil with other countries in the adjoining regions and to exchange/ buy other goods, equipments etc. from those countries or elsewhere, which supplement the country's needs?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The Public Sector Oil Companies explore the possibility of tapping new sources of crude supply from different regions of the world on a continuous basis, particularly the Gulf, North Africa, West Africa and the Far East, and grades which are identified as suitable are imported subject to economic viability.